

Houston District, will not improve if the small business lending crisis continues. Small businesses in every category in Houston will be eliminated permanently, resulting in the loss of jobs, incomes and economic stability. Of course, the administration acknowledges this problem, and proposed establishing the \$30 billion lending fund and the State Small Business Credit Initiative to allocate funding to states to support Capital Access Programs. The Obama administration also supports expansion of many of the current SBA programs, as well as tax incentives to stimulate the small business sector. Any comprehensive package of initiatives designed to support small business is the best solution to keep the small businesses of our Nation generating jobs and creating income. H.R. 5297 is one element of the comprehensive package we need right now to provide much needed capital to small businesses and the fund has enough safeguards to ensure the lending truly benefits small businesses.

Ladies and gentlemen, I believe we have reached an impasse when it comes to small business lending in our country, and the only way to send a strong signal to the small businesses and the banks that lend to them is to pass legislation that will help to ease the liquidity crisis. This bill is a timely well-crafted measure to assist the Nation's small businesses. I urge you to support H.R. 5297.

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IN RECOGNITION OF KATIE  
SCHOOLS

**HON. ERIC CANTOR**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise today in recognition of my constituent, Katie Schools, who is serving as an "intern for a day" here on Capitol Hill.

Katie first realized her passion for public service and our Nation's democratic process in 2003, when she met with staff members from my office and the office of Senator John Warner. With the steady support and encouragement of her parents, Susan and Chris Schools, Katie has developed a deep interest in politics and she has made a lasting impact in my office.

Katie Schools impresses all who meet her with her perseverance and her passion for serving her community in the face of adversity. Born on October 25, 2000 in Henrico County, VA, Katie was diagnosed at the age of one with a tumor which was located in the middle of her brain. Today, Katie bravely continues to battle this disease. While receiving radiation therapy at St. Jude's Children's Hospital, Katie volunteered to be interviewed in 2007 for the St. Jude's Kids Radiothon by K95 Country Cares to share her story. This radiothon occurs every February and benefits the children of St. Jude's and Katie has continued to participate in two more radiothons to help raise support and awareness for the work of St. Jude's.

In addition to her many other interests, Katie is also developing her promising skills as an artist. Her art work has been displayed in the Bone Marrow Transplant unit in the Chili's

Care Center at St. Jude's and in 2008, Katie was recognized as the youngest artist to create an ornament for the White House Christmas tree. Katie has also proudly served as a Girl Scout for the past four years, recently attaining the rank of Jr. Girl Scout.

Madam Speaker and my colleagues in the House, please join me in recognizing Katie Schools and commending her for being such a tremendous example of courage and grace to all who have the benefit of knowing her.

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HONORING THE 99TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
BOY SCOUT TROOP 1  
OF PAOLI

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Boy Scout Troop 1 of Paoli, Chester County as they celebrate their 99th anniversary.

Generation after generation, the Scouts of Troop 1 have developed and exhibited exemplary character, values and leadership skills and have volunteered thousands of hours to clean up streams, build parks and take on countless other projects aimed at improving the quality of life throughout the Paoli area. As a result, the Troop has established itself as one of the premiere Scouting programs in the Nation.

A major reason the tradition of Scouting has thrived in Paoli and throughout the Nation is due to dedicated volunteers and Troop alumni, who graciously commit countless hours and endless effort to mentoring young men in their communities.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating Boy Scout Troop 1 on reaching this very special milestone and offering best wishes for continued success in mentoring generations of local youth and building a stronger community and Nation.

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RECOGNIZING THE DANGERS AND  
DRAWBACKS OF AMERICA'S  
ADDICTION TO OIL

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 17, 2010*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dangers of America's continued dependence on harmful fossil fuels and the urgent need to usher in a new era of clean, green energy. In his 2006 State of the Union Address, President George W. Bush poignantly noted that "America is addicted to oil," an extremely destructive habit that continues to threaten our environment, national security, health, and economy. In light of the ongoing catastrophe in the Gulf of Mexico, it is imperative that we recognize the dangers of our oil addiction and strive to actively break away from this costly and destructive dependence.

Burning almost 20 million barrels of oil a day, the United States, which possesses a mere 2.2 percent of the world's oil reserves, consumes more than one quarter of the world's oil supply. This unrivaled compulsion to consume an increasingly limited oil supply has made the United States dependent on importing oil from foreign nations and producing environmentally destructive fuel sources.

Most recently, our country has witnessed the growth of the Canadian tar sands industry. Tar sands are a combination of clay, sand, and bitumen that are found in great quantities under the boreal forest of Alberta. Through the use of large mining operations as well as extremely inefficient underground heating and production methods, companies are able to transform tar sands into a form of heavy oil that travels via pipeline from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico to be further refined for use in transportation fuels.

The destructive effects of exploiting tar sands and building pipelines are varied and far reaching. These projects provide the United States a highly polluting fuel that when burned emits two to three times more carbon than the dirtiest fuels we use today. Widespread usage of tar sands will further ensure our dependence on fossil fuels that will pollute and contaminate our air and water. Furthermore, permitting tar sands mining and pipelines will significantly detract from the necessary drive to develop cleaner and more efficient fuel sources—sources that will not weaken our economy, threaten our national security, or harm the environment.

Should tar sands pipelines be built, thousands of miles of land will be irrevocably scarred and poisoned. The pipelines required to transport the oil cut through sensitive ecosystems, cross rivers, and invade ranches and farms, which threaten water supplies, displace and endanger local wildlife, and put farmland out of production. Such pipelines also lead to a near inevitability of spills and leaks, the economic and environmental repercussions of which would be tremendous.

In addition to the risks that arise from pipeline construction, the tar sands mining and production facilities will irreversibly devastate the environment. By creating a demand for tar sands, the Canadian Government will be encouraged to continue removing the boreal forest, destroying the natural habitats of countless animals and polluting both the air and water. Moreover, the growth in tar sands production facilities will necessitate the increased use of United States refiners which create far more air and water pollution in their surrounding communities.

The construction of these pipelines should be immediately canceled, effectively taking a stand against the proliferation of this dirty fuel. Congress should also pass comprehensive climate and energy legislation that will hold the oil companies and similar corporations accountable for their pollution. Instead of building pipelines, we need to invest in American ingenuity and create a clean, green American energy economy.

We must do everything in our power to end this oil addiction, and endorsing tar sands pipelines is a step in the wrong direction. Such a project would only continue to fuel the fires of our dependency. Now more than ever, we must take a stand.